

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 23 are independent.

OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS

The Examiner objects to the drawings because they do not include reference characters mentioned in the description. Applicants submit replacement drawings for Figs. 1-3 in the attached sheet labeled "REPLACEMENT SHEET". Amendments made to the drawings are shown in red. Applicants will submit formal drawings in compliance with the submission rules for drawings. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the objections to the drawings.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Examiner has objected to claims 6, 12, and 32. Concerning claim 6, the Examiner states that a space should appear between the characters of the expression "x-z". Applicants have amended claim 6 to include spaces between "x-z." Further, the Examiner suggests that "x" should be clarified. Applicants kindly direct the Examiner to claim 1, from which claim 6 depends. Claim 1 defines "x" as a time slot in line 4 of the claim. Concerning claim 12, the Examiner states that there is insufficient antecedent basis of the limitation "the time slot p of the other control channel." Applicants have amended claim 12 so that proper antecedent basis is used. Concerning claim 32, the Examiner states that claim 32 is unclear. Applicants have amended claim 32 to resolve

clarity issues. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the objections to the claims.

EMBODIMENT OF THE INVENTION

The Applicant respectfully provides the Examiner with a summary of an embodiment of the present invention. Referring to Fig. 1 and page 3, line 28 through page 4, line 31 of the specification, a data packet 10 and control information 14 are channel coded prior to transmission. Control information 14 may include information on how to decode an associated channel coded data packet 10. The data packet 10 is divided into data sub-packets 12-n. Each data sub-packet 12-n is transmitted over separate time slots n of a data channel. Control information 14 may be transmitted as control information 16-n over time slots n of a control channel; wherein the control channel is parallel to the data channel and the times slots of the control channel are time synchronized to the time slots of the data channel such that time slot n of the control channel spans the same time interval as time slot n of the data channel.

Each transmission of control information 16-n is identical such that the same control information is repeated in each time slot n of the control channel and can be used to decode data packet 10 or any data sub-packet 12-n. This results in a reduction of transmission delays.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e)

Claims 1 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated by Ueno. Applicant respectfully traverses this art grounds of rejection.

Ueno teaches a method and apparatus for transferring a fixed-length data block between nodes using a time slot of a plurality of time slots provided within each consecutive cycle. Referring to Fig. 1 and col. 3, line 52 through col. 5, line 7, Ueno discloses an arrangement of a wireless network 1, which uses infrared rays as a wireless communication medium. The wireless network may include five wireless network nodes WN 2 through 6, which are connected to IEEE 1394 buses. When data is transferred in the network between nodes, the data is converted into an infrared signal before it is transferred. Further the data is transferred in fixed-length data blocks, which are generated based on packet data at WN nodes 2 through 6.

Referring to Fig. 6A and col. 5, lines 1-5 a fixed-length data block containing user data comprising data of one packet is shown. A header is located ahead of the user data, and the user data is followed by error-correcting code (ECC). The fixed-length data block is transferred using a plurality of time slots (see Fig. 8 time slots 1-6) within each consecutive cycle. One of the WN nodes acts as a control node. The remaining WN nodes transmit data under the control of the control node. The WN node acting as the control node transmits a control block during each cycle prior to the time slots 1-6 via a slot permission area (col. 7, lines 42-67). Using the slot permission area, the control node allocates a time slot to a predetermined WN node to transmit data of a reserved transfer width (col. 8, lines 1-13). Ueno neither discloses nor suggests “transmitted a first control

information associated with one of the plurality of data sub-packets over a time slot x of a control channel” as recited in claim 1. Further, Ueno neither discloses nor suggests “means for transmitting a first control information associated with one of the plurality of data sub-packets over a time slot x of a control channel” as recited in claim 23.

Therefore, Ueno does not anticipate or render claims 1 and 23 obvious to one skilled in the art. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Proctor. This art grounds of rejection is traversed. A cursory review of Proctor reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Ueno in view of Proctor cannot render claim 1 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claim 2, dependent upon claim 1, is patentable for the reasons stated above with respect to claim 1 as well as on its own merits.

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Ishikawa. Applicant respectfully traverses this art grounds of rejection. A cursory review of Ishikawa reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Ueno in view of Ishikawa cannot render claim 1 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claim 3 is allowable due to its dependency on claim 1 as well as on its own merits.

Claims 4 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Lewis. Applicant respectfully traverse this art grounds of rejection.

A cursory review of Lewis reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Ueno in view of Lewis cannot render claim 1 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claims 4 and 16 are allowable due to their dependency on claim 1 as well as on their own merits.

Claims 5, 6, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Ueno. Applicant respectfully traverse this art grounds of rejection. For at least the reasons stated above with respect to claim 1, Ueno cannot render claim 1 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claims 5, 6, and 12 are allowable due to their dependency on claim 1 as well as on their own merits.

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Carlsson. Applicant respectfully traverses this art grounds of rejection. A cursory review of Carlsson reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Ueno in view of Carlsson cannot render claim 1 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claim 7 is allowable due to its dependency on claims 1 as well as on its own merits.

Claims 8, 9, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Scholefield. Applicant respectfully traverse this art grounds of rejection. A cursory review of Scholefield reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Ueno in view of Scholefield cannot render claim 1 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claims 8, 9, and 11 are allowable due to their dependency on claims 1 as well as on their own merits.

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Scholefield. Applicant respectfully traverses this art grounds of rejection. A cursory review of Scholefield reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Ueno in view of Scholefield cannot render claim 1 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claim 10 is allowable due to its dependency on claims 1 as well as on its own merits.

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Nakano. Applicant respectfully traverses this art grounds of rejection. A cursory review of Nakano reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Ueno in view of Nakano cannot render claim 1 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claim 13 is allowable due to its dependency on claims 1 as well as on its own merits.

Claims 14, 15, and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Bergenwall. Applicant respectfully traverse this art grounds of rejection. A cursory review of Bergenwall reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Ueno in view of Bergenwall cannot render claim 1 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claims 14, 15, and 17 are allowable due to their dependency on claims 1 as well as on their own merits.

Claim 18 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueno. Applicant respectfully traverses this art grounds of rejection. For at least the reasons stated above with respect to claim 1, Ueno cannot render claim 1 obvious to one

skilled in the art. Claim 18, dependent upon claim 1, is allowable as least for the reasons stated above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Nakano. Applicant respectfully traverses this art grounds of rejection. A cursory review of Nakano reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Ueno in view of Nakano cannot render claim 1 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claim 19 is allowable due to its dependency on claims 1 as well as on its own merits.

Claims 21, 22, 31, 32, and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Mousley. Applicant respectfully traverse this art grounds of rejection. A cursory review of Mousley reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claims 1 and 23. Therefore, Ueno in view of Mousley cannot render claim 1 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claims 21, 22, 31, 32, and 33 are allowable due to their dependency on claims 1 and 23 as well as on their own merits.

Claims 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Mousley. Applicant respectfully traverse this art grounds of rejection. A cursory review of Mousley reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 23. Therefore, Ueno in view of Mousley cannot render claim 23 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claims 25 and 26 are allowable due to their dependency on claim 23 as well as on their own merits.

Claim 27 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Mousley. Applicant respectfully traverses this art grounds of rejection. A cursory review of Mousley reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 23. Therefore, Ueno in view of Mousley cannot render claim 23 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claim 27 is allowable due to its dependency on claims 1 as well as on its own merits.

Claim 28 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Mousley. Applicant respectfully traverses this art grounds of rejection. A cursory review of Mousley reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 23. Therefore, Ueno in view of Mousley cannot render claim 23 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claim 28 is allowable due to its dependency on claims 1 as well as on its own merits.

Claim 29 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Mousley. Applicant respectfully traverses this art grounds of rejection. A cursory review of Mousley reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 23. Therefore, Ueno in view of Mousley cannot render claim 23 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claim 29 is allowable due to its dependency on claims 1 as well as on its own merits.

Claim 30 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Mousley. Applicant respectfully traverses this art grounds of rejection. A cursory review of Mousley reveals that it does not overcome the disclosure and suggestion deficiencies of Ueno with respect to claim 23. Therefore, Ueno in view of

Moulsley cannot render claim 23 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claim 30 is allowable due to its dependency on claims 1 as well as on its own merits.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner will allow claim 20 if drafted into independent form. Applicants believe that the above arguments render drafting claim 20 independent form unnecessary.

CONCLUSION

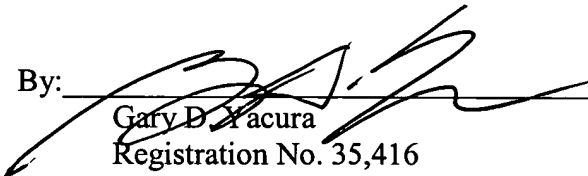
In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Gary Yacura at (703) 668-8023 in the Washington, D.C. area, to discuss the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By: _____


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